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(Robinson)
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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: BRANDENBURG GATE
WEST BERLIN, GERMANY
FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 1987

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Chancellor Kohl, Governing Mayor Diepgen, ladies and gentlemen: Twenty-four years ago, President John F. Kennedy visited Berlin, speaking to the people of this city and the world from the City Hall, at the Rudolph Wiede Platz. Since then, two other Presidents have come, each in his turn, to Berlin. Today I myself make my second visit to your city.

We come to Berlin, we American Presidents, because it is our duty to speak, in this place, of freedom. But I must confess, we are drawn here by other things as well: By the feeling of history in this city, more than 500 years older than our own Nation. By the sense of energy in your streets. By the beauty of the Grunewald and the Tiergarten. Most of all, by your courage and friendship.

[Perhaps Marlene Dietrich understood something about American Presidents. You see, like so many Presidents before me, I come here today because wherever I go, whatever I do:

"Ich hab noch einen koffer in Berlin." ["I still have a

We
still think
this is
wrong
true --
nostalgia +
abandonment,
not
commitment
(+ Dietrich
is not
really
identified
with it)

suitcase in Berlin" -- words from a much-loved song.]

Our gathering today is being broadcast throughout Western Europe and North America. I understand that it is being seen and heard as well in the East -- that Berlin television can be seen as far to the southeast as Leipzig, as far to the northeast as Gdansk; that Berlin radio can be picked up as far east as

Moscow.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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6/1 7.1A Pres. dnt Reagan
to BERLIN 87

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To those listening throughout Eastern Europe, I extend my warmest greetings and the goodwill of the American people. To those listening in East Berlin, a special word. Although I cannot be with you, I address my remarks to you just as surely as to those standing here before me. For I join you as I join your ^{COUNTRYMEN} fellow ~~CITIZENS~~ in the West in this firm, this unalterable belief: [In German:] There is only one Berlin.

We recognize
2 citizenships

--part of a barrier

~~Wall, as such, doesn't go whole way~~ Behind me stands a wall that divides the entire continent of Europe. From the Baltic south it cuts across Germany in one continuous gash of concrete, barbed wire, guard towers, dog runs, and gun emplacements. ~~On borders further south~~ In some places there may be no visible, no obvious wall. But there remain ~~armed guards~~ and checkpoints all the same -- still a restriction on the right to travel, still an instrument to impose upon ordinary men and women the will of a totalitarian state.

Yet it is here in Berlin where the wall emerges most clearly; here, cutting across your city, where the newsphoto and the television screen have imprinted this brutal division of a continent upon the mind of the world. Standing before the Brandenburg Gate, any man is a German, separated from his fellow men. Any man is a Berliner, forced to look upon a scar.

President von Weizsaecker has said: The German question is open as long as the Brandenburg Gate is closed. Today I say: As long as this gate is closed, as long as this scar of a wall is permitted to stand, it is not the German question alone that remains open, but the question of freedom for all mankind.

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Yet I do not come here to lament. For I find in Berlin a message of hope -- even, in the shadow of this wall, a message of triumph.

In this season of spring in 1945, the people of Berlin emerged from their air-raid shelters to find devastation.

[Streets choked with rubble. One building in five destroyed.

Tens of thousands lying dead.] Thousands of miles away, the people of the United States reached out to help. In announcing the Marshall Plan, Secretary of State George Marshall stated precisely 40 years ago this week: "Our policy is directed not against any country or doctrine, but against hunger, poverty, desperation, and chaos."

In the Reichstag a few moments ago, I saw a display commemorating this 40th anniversary of the Marshall Plan. I was struck by the sign on a burnt-out, gutted structure that was being rebuilt. I understand that Berliners of my own generation can remember seeing signs like it dotted throughout the Western sectors of the city. The sign read simply: "The Marshall Plan at work. For the building of a Free World."

"[T]he building of a Free World" -- in the West, that building took place. Japan rose from ruin to become an economic giant. Germany and its neighbors, Italy, France, Belgium, and others, saw political and economic rebirth. The European Community was founded.

Cannot
listen
only
a few.

(16 countries
took part in
Adenauer
Plan)

In West Germany and here in Berlin, there took place an economic miracle, the "Wirtschaftswunder." Adenauer, Erhard, Reuter, and other leaders understood the practical importance of liberty -- that just as truth can flourish only when the

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journalist is given freedom of speech, so prosperity can come about only when the farmer and businessman enjoy economic freedom. The German leaders reduced tariffs, expanded free trade, lowered taxes. From 1950 to 1960 alone, the standard of living in West Germany and [West] Berlin more than doubled.

*Before the
Wall, Berlin
was less
divided*

Where four decades ago there was rubble, today in West Berlin there is the greatest industrial output of any city in Germany; busy office blocks; fine homes and apartments; proud avenues and the spreading lawns of parkland. Where a city's culture seemed to have been destroyed, today there are two great universities, orchestras and an opera, countless theaters and museums. Where there was want, today there is abundance ~~of~~ food, clothing, automobiles; the wonderful goods of the Ku'damm; even home computers.]

From devastation -- from utter ruin -- you Berliners have in freedom rebuilt a city that once again ranks as one of the greatest on Earth. The Soviets may have had other plans. [But,

*Bad
(Roz
agrees)*

my friends, there was one thing the Soviets didn't count on: Berliner schnauze. Ja, Berliner schnauze -- und mit herz. ["Berliner schnauze" is a well-known phrase meaning courage mixed with good humor, "chutzpah." "Und mit herz" means "and with heart."]

In the 1960's, Khrushchev predicted: "We will bury you." But in the West today, we see a free world that has achieved a level of prosperity and well-being unprecedented in all human history. In the ~~East~~, we see ~~failure~~, ^{Communist world} stagnation. Technological backwardness. Declining standards of health. Even want of the

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most basic kind -- too little food. The Soviet Union still cannot feed itself. East Germany has made strides, but at harvest time the news announcers still speak, to use the well-known phrase, of "the battle to bring in the crops."

After these four decades, then, there stands before the entire world one great and inescapable conclusion. Freedom leads to prosperity. ^{And} freedom replaces the ancient hatreds between the nations with comity and peace.

Freiheit -- Freiheit ist der Sieger. [Freedom is the victor.]

in their own way,

(May give them too much credit) Now the Soviets themselves may at last be coming to understand the importance of freedom. We hear much from Moscow

Inaccurate: openness = glasnost; reform = perestroika (restructuring). about a new policy of openness and reform, ~~of to use the Russian term, "glasnost."~~ Some political prisoners have been released. Certain foreign news broadcasts are no longer being jammed. Some economic enterprises have been permitted to operate with greater freedom from state control.

Noted mainly at western opinion

"Encouraging change means fesscher like, i.e., paying tribute

Are these the beginnings of profound changes in the Soviet state? Or are they token gestures, intended only to raise false hopes in the West? We ~~want to encourage~~ change and openness. *Welcome* ~~Because we believe the advance of freedom and the strengthening of want new agreements especially those that will reduce nuclear security go together.~~

Doesn't fit or track w/

There is one sign the Soviets can make that would be unmistakable, that would ~~advance dramatically the cause of understanding between nations~~ *increase the trust among nations both* the cause of peace and freedom.

Since he will have just been here (Aug 28-9), this device seems silly, even as edited

[General Secretary Gorbachev, if you seek peace, come to

Berlin. If you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern

lock A

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back

Europe, come ^{back} to Berlin. If you seek liberalization -- if you seek "glasnost" -- come ^{back} to Berlin.

not to a plush conference hall down the road.
Come here, to this gate,

Why basin German, open this gate.]
and not this → Herr Gorbachev, machen Sie dieses Tor auf. [Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate.]

Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.

While we watch and wait, we in the West must resist Soviet expansion. So we must maintain defenses of unassailable strength. Yet it is our nature as free peoples to make manifest our goodwill. So we must strive to reduce arms on both sides.

Soviet missiles were there before. Beginning 10 years ago, the Soviets challenged the Western Alliance with a grave new threat: the deployment of hundreds of *new and more dead,* *-- the triple-warhead SS-20s --* nuclear missiles, capable of striking every capital in Europe.

Need to clarify what was new. The Western Alliance responded by committing itself to a counter-deployment -- unless the Soviets agreed to negotiate a better solution, *Namely to eliminate these weapons on both sides.* For many months, the Soviets refused to *bargain* seriously. *The table* As the Alliance *came to* prepared to go forward with its counter-deployment, there were difficult days -- days of protests like those during my 1982 visit to this city. *And the Soviets walked away from the table.*

But through it all, the Alliance held firm. And I invite those who protested then -- I invite those who protest today -- to mark this fact: Because we remained strong, the Soviets came ^{back} to the table. Because we remained strong, today we are engaged in talks that hold out the possibility, not merely of limiting the growth of arms, but of eliminating, for the first time, an entire class of nuclear weapons from the face of the Earth.

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I understand the fear of war and the pain of division that afflict this continent. As I speak, NATO ministers are meeting in Iceland to review the progress of our proposals for the complete elimination of intermediate-range nuclear forces that I mentioned. At the talks in Geneva, we have proposed deep cuts in strategic forces, ^{as well.} And the Western Allies have ~~likewise~~ made far-reaching proposals to reduce the danger of conventional war, and to place a total ban on chemical weapons.

While we pursue these arms reductions, I pledge to you that we will maintain the capacity to deter Soviet aggression at any level at which it might occur. And in cooperation with many of our Allies, the United States is pursuing a Strategic Defense Initiative -- research ^{to find a way to} ~~to defend~~ base deterrence not on the threat of offensive retaliation, but on ~~defensive~~ defenses that truly defend; on ~~defenses~~ ^{systems,} in short, that will protect ^{human} lives ~~and~~ instead of ^{them.} targeting ~~populations~~ but by shielding them.

Yes, our ~~strength~~ ^{strength is} crucial -- but only the means to something far greater: the life of freedom. ^{In} ~~Perhaps when~~ President Kennedy's ~~said~~ ^{time,} ~~spoke at the Rudolph Wilde Jazz Club those 11 years~~

Accuracy
(we don't
know
results)

Too many
different
meanings
of
"defenses"

Wrong:
Berlin critics
ended after
Wall went
up. (In
another
sense, it's
still
surrounded
+ under
siege.)

~~ago~~ it was freedom that was encircled, Berlin that was under siege. No longer. Despite all the pressures upon this city, Berlin stands secure in its liberty. And today freedom itself is transforming the globe.

^{Throughout South and Central}
In the Philippines; in ~~Argentina, Brazil, and across South~~ America, democracy has been given a rebirth. Throughout the Pacific, free markets are working miracle after miracle of economic growth. ~~Even the People's Republic of China is~~ →

Ago
Can
new
only
for

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PRC has regress
recently. Can we
point more broadi

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~~Granted certain economic freedom~~ In the industrialized nations, a technological revolution is taking place -- a revolution marked by rapid, dramatic advances in computers and telecommunications. Even in the Communist world, the economic and moral bankruptcy of central state control is beginning to be understood.

In Europe, only one nation and those it controls refuse to join the community of freedom. Yet in this age of redoubled economic growth, of information and innovation, the Soviet Union faces a choice. It must make fundamental changes. Or it will become obsolete.

In this respect, today represents a moment of hope. We in the West stand ready to cooperate with the East to promote true openness -- to break down the barriers that separate people, to create a safer, freer world. And surely there is no better place than Berlin, the meetingplace of East and West, to make a start.

~~Bad - Diepgen has tried solo initiatives against Allied wishes (Roz's point)~~ Free people of Berlin, ~~I urge you to reach out to the East.~~ Reach out, setting an example of goodwill. Reach out, demonstrating to your neighbors the powerful example of freedom. ~~today as in the past, the United States~~ stands for the strict observance and full implementation of all parts of the Four-Power Agreement of 1971. Let us use this occasion, the 750th anniversary of the founding of this city, ~~to usher in a new era, only to the city's defense, but to building for Berlin a still fuller, richer life for the future. Let us strive together~~ to maintain and develop the ~~complete implementation of the Four Power Agreement especially to the provisions that bind us together~~ ties between the Federal Republic and the Western sectors of Berlin. ~~Within Berlin itself, let us~~ And I challenge Mr. Gorbachev: ~~to great~~ work to bring the two parts of ~~the~~ city closer together, so that

~~Need to dramatize better what he's offering a new initiative~~

(Jesse is a "the" move

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all the inhabitants of all Berlin can enjoy the benefits that should come with life in one of the great cities of the world.

With our French and British partners, the United States is prepared to sponsor international meetings in Berlin. It would be only fitting for Berlin to serve as the site of United Nations meetings, or conferences on human rights, and arms control, or other issues or areas that call areas of international cooperation. for cooperation between East and West. There is no better way to establish hope for the future than to enlighten young minds, and We American authorities in Berlin would be honored to sponsor summer youth exchanges, cultural events, and other programs for young Berliners from the East. Our French and British friends, I'm certain, will be indicated that they are prepared to do the same. It is my hope that authority could be found in East Berlin to sponsor visits similar here from young people here in the Western sectors.

To open Berlin still further to all Europe, East and West, let us The United States seeks to greatly expand the vital air access corridors to this city; let us find ways of making commercial air service to Berlin through the established corridors safer, more comfortable, and more economical. We see Berlin as one of the chief aviation hubs in all Central Europe.

One final proposal -- one close to my heart. Sport represents a source of enjoyment and ennoblement, and you may have noted that the Republic of Korea -- South Korea -- has offered to permit certain events of the 1988 Olympics to take place in the North. International sports competitions of all kinds could take place in both parts of this city. And what better way to show goodwill toward the East -- what better way to

Add this

Not just
East-West
issuesShould be
"West Berlin"

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demonstrate to the world the openness of this city -- than in
some future year to ~~hold the~~ ask to hold an Olympic Games here in Berlin, East
and West? ~~Let's not just talk about openness, Mr. Gorbachev. Let's make~~
~~it a reality right here in [friendship] Berlin.~~

In these four decades, as I have said, you Berliners have rebuilt a great city. You have done so in spite of threats: The Soviet attempts to impose the East-mark. The blockade. Today the city thrives in spite of the challenges implicit in the very presence of this wall.

What keeps you here?

No, West Berlin is part "the West"
What persuades you to stay when you could so easily ~~travel~~ move
~~some other city in~~
to the West?

I spoke earlier of "Berliner schnauze," and of course there is a great deal to be said for your ~~Fortitude, for~~ ^{and} your defiant courage, ~~are certainly part of the answer.~~

But I believe that there is something deeper. Something that involves Berlin's whole look and feel and way of life. Not mere sentiment -- no one could live long in Berlin without being completely disabused of illusions. Something instead that sees the difficulties of life in Berlin but chooses to ~~accept~~ surmount them. That stubbornly ~~refuses to abandon this good and proud city to a~~ ^{insists on expanding life and vitality.} surrounding presence that is ~~merely brutal~~ something that speaks with a powerful voice of affirmation -- that says yes to this city, yes to the future, yes to freedom. In a word, I would submit that what keeps you in Berlin is love -- love both profound and abiding.

Perhaps this gets to the root of the matter, to the most fundamental distinction of all between East and West. The totalitarian world does not produce low living standards and

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backwardness because of some technical shortcoming in its economic arrangements. It produces backwardness because it does such violence to the spirit, thwarting the human impulse to create, to enjoy, to worship.

The totalitarian world finds even symbols of love an affront. During the War, the sculpture atop the Brandenburg Gate was taken down for safekeeping and stored here, in the Western sectors of the city. In 19_____, the West turned the sculpture over to the East in a gesture of goodwill, and soon the sculpture was once again looking out upon "Unter den Linden" [the main avenue in East Berlin]. But something was different. The cross -- the cross the figure had borne aloft for nearly 150 years -- that cross was gone. In its place was a Communist wreath.

Are you sure?

____ years later, authorities in the East erected what is now the tallest structure in the city, the television tower above Alexanderplatz. I understand that virtually ever since, the *(They may have succeeded.)* authorities have been working to correct what they view as the tower's one major flaw, treating the glass dome at the top with paints and chemicals of every kind. Yet even today when the sun strikes that dome -- that dome that towers over all Berlin -- the light makes the sign of the cross.

As I looked out a moment ago from the Reichstag -- that embodiment of German unity -- I noticed words crudely spray-painted upon the wall -- perhaps by a young Berliner -- words that answer the German question. "This wall will fall. Beliefs become reality."

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Yes, across Europe, this wall will fall. For it cannot withstand faith. It cannot withstand truth.

Die Mauer kann Freiheit nicht zuruckhalten. [The wall cannot withstand freedom.]

Thank you. God bless you all.

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